Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: March 14, 2007

TC
Agenda Item No. 8(E)

To: Honorable Chairman Dorrin D. Rolle
and Members, Transit Committee

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: MOVN Initiatives Update

At the June 15, 2006, meeting of the Regional Transportation Committee (RTC), the Public Works Department (PWD) was asked to provide a status report on the reversible lanes and 10 arterial corridors retiming projects whenever such updates are provided to the MOVN group.

Reversible Lanes

A feasibility study for reversible lanes has been completed for the NW 7 Avenue Corridor from NW 119 Street to NW 6 Street with positive results, recommending advancement to design. Currently, the PWD is in the selection process for consultant services. On November 30, 2006, the Consultant Selection Committee held the First Tier Meeting and a selection was made. Negotiations with the consultant were initiated on December 22, 2006. However, since this road is under the State's jurisdiction and it required a State Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), the negotiations had to be extended in order to incorporate this task. The Consultant Services Agreement is currently being scheduled for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust (CITT). A Notice to Proceed for the design effort is anticipated to be issued by July 2007, with a duration of approximately 12 months. Construction is scheduled to commence by the end of 2008.

Re-timing Five Major North-South and Five Major East-West Arterial Corridors

In early 2006, PWD staff developed a scope-of-work to implement the corridor re-timing effort. Four consultants were selected to develop the new timing plans for traffic signals along five major north-south and five major east-west corridors. The consultants selected were Kimley-Horn, Reynolds Smith & Hill, Transport Analysis Professionals, and Edwards and Kelcey. Kimley-Horn, the Department's Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) consultant, is also coordinating the effort to ensure all new timing patterns are provided in a format that will be most useful with the ATMS and will yield the maximum benefit to the public.

In mid 2006, data was collected, the geometric modeling of all corridors was completed, and the computer simulation models were built. A total of 61 new signal timing patterns were developed and reviewed by staff. During the month of October, the new timing plans were deployed on nine of the ten corridors. Consultant staff expended considerable time fine-tuning them to maximize their effectiveness and the effort was completed by the end of November 2006. Deployment of the new patterns on the 10th corridor (Biscayne Blvd.) has been delayed to not conflict with another ongoing effort on that corridor -- its transference from the old Urban Traffic Control System (UTCS) to the new ATMS and extensive construction activities. That effort was completed in mid February and is currently being reviewed by staff.

In late 2006 and early 2007, consultants performed floating-car travel time runs to ascertain the quantity and degree of improvement attained. A "floating car" is a car that travels at an average speed along a road. Floating cars are often used to measure average characteristics of traffic flow such as speed, stops, and delays. The final floating car evaluations have been completed on eight of the ten corridors and will be completed on the remaining two within the next two weeks.

Results to-date show improvement in most of the new patterns for half of the corridors; the remainder of the corridors have not shown significant improvement. However, as a matter of compromise, priority has been given to the heaviest direction of travel, in order to reap the maximum benefit and enhance traffic flow during peak hours. Consultants are currently reviewing those corridors and fine-tuning their patterns to attain more positive results.

A final report on this project is currently being drafted and should be available to present at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Assistant County Manager